Bigbee BA 1895

ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

—OF THE—

Forty-third Annual Session

—OF THE—

BIGBEE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

—HELD WITH—

LIVINGSTON BAPTIST CHURCH,

Livingston, Ala., October 2 and 3, 1895.

OFFICERS:

ELD. J. R. LARKIN, Moderator.....Coatopa, Ala.
JNO. D. PHILLIPS, Clerk.....Yantley, Ala.
E. M. SHAW, Treasurer.....Cuba, Ala.

The next session of this Association will be held with the Concord Baptist Church, Yantley, Ala., on Wednesday before the first Sabbath in October, 1896.

Montgomery, Ala.:
ALABAMA BAPTIST,
1895.

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MINUTES.

LIVINGSTON, ALA., OCT. 2, 1895.

1. The Bigbee Baptist Association met this day for its forty-third session with Livingston Baptist church, and was called to order by the Moderator, Eld. J. B. Larkin, at 11 o'clock a. m.

2. Letters from the churches were called for, and by request of the Moderator read by Brethren C. E. Mathers and J. C. Kelly. Delegates were enrolled as follows:

1. Beulah—J. B. Pond, W. F. Pond and J. T. Dill.
2. Christian Valley—B. B. Seale, Wm. Larkin and J. W. Blakely.
3. Clinton—N. M. Carpenter, J. D. Cook and A. M. Pippin.
4. Cuba—C. C. Vaughan, L. Pool and W. S. Daniel.
5. Demopolis—I. G. Wilson, J. J. Bolton and J. C. Kelly.
6. Epes—J. C. Horton, E. J. Harder and L. Lewis.
7. Eutaw—Jno. G. Apsey, T. J. Attaberry and A. P. Smith.
8. Friendship—Not represented.
9. Gainesville—Not represented.
10. Hopewell, C. C—Not represented.
11. Hopewell, S. C—B. F. Richardson and Sister Ava Syed.
12. Livingston—A. R. Hardy, J. C. Arington, R. H. Lide and Wade H. Coleman.
13. Mt Hermon—W. F. McGowen and J. C. McGowen.
14. Mt. Pleasant—Letter and funds.
15. Mt. Sterling—Not represented.
16. New Prospect—L. A. McLean, M. D. Gould, Willie H. Scarbrough, H. B. Leetch and W. P. Brewer.
17. Reholoth—F. A. Freeman, C. F. Rainer, J. W. Cook and A. B. Cook.
18. Shorts—W. S. Woodward.
19. Siloam—F. Brown, W. I. Dearman, James Stallings, J. T. Flowers, W. L. Mathews and G. W. Greene.
20. Sumterville—A. E. Poythress, J. E. Harris and W. H. Brown.
21. York—C. E. Mathers, W. A. Altman and Frank Helman.
22. Zion—A. P. Evans.

3. Concord having sent up contesting delegations, it was ordered that a special committee of five be appointed to determine which were entitled to seats. The committee was appointed as follows: J. C. Kelly, C. E. Mathers, L. A. McLean, N. M. Carpenter, and L. Pool.

4. On motion of C. E. Mathers the former officers were re-elected by acclamation.

5. Received Correspondence as follows:

Secretary State Board of Missions—W. B. Crumpton.
Theological Seminary and Baptist Sunday School Board—Jno G. Apsey.
Baptist Orphanage—J. W. Stewart.
Liberty Association—H. M. Bunlard and H. B. Scott.

6. Committee on Program was appointed as follows: C. C. Vaughan, C. F. Rainer and J. W. Cook.

7. Rev. J. E. Vaughan not being present to preach the Introductory sermon, on request of the Association Rev. J. W. Stewart occupied the time in preaching from the text as contained in Rom. 14:7.

8. Adjourned to 2:30 o'clock with prayer by C. C. Vaughan.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

9. Re-assembled and began with singing. Prayer by W. F. Pond.

10. The report of the committee on Program was adopted.

11. The reports on Missions were called for and read, as follows:

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

Your committee on Home Missions beg leave to report: That they are glad to be able to report that during the past year reports from the Home field are encouraging. They have expended on the field, as per report for mission work, over sixty-seven thousand dollars. This, the home field, includes the Island of Cuba, where its faithful missionaries, Diaz and his co-laborers, are upholding the standard of the cross, and although the Island is torn with dissensions, the work of the Lord is prospering in their hands.

This work of Home Missions is increasing every day. The influx of foreigners to our shores; the opening up of new settlements; the establishing of new towns, demand greater expenditures and consequently call for larger contributions. Remember, oh Christian! that this work is for Christ. He calls. Obey the call. Let your prayers and your aims be laid upon the altar, then shall salvation cover the earth as the waters cover the sea.

Respectfully submitted,
W. F. POND, Chairman.

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

Your committee to whom was assigned the duty of making a report on State Missions beg leave to report: That while we feel an interest in Foreign and Home Missions, we believe the best means to increase their efficiency is to encourage and sustain the State Mission Board, as it is the base upon which the other boards rest largely. We feel gratified at the work this board has done during the past year as shown by the report of the Secretary, (Brother Crumpton). If it did such satisfactory work during the past year with the financial stringency prevalent throughout the country, may we not reasonably hope, with the brightening prospect, its work will be increased? To this end let the Baptist of Alabama work with more earnestness than ever before. We call special attention to the report of Bro. Crumpton for the year ending June 1, 1895.

Respectfully submitted, WM. LARKIN.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Your committee on Foreign Missions beg leave to report: That as long as there remains a Bible in the land for our rule and guide, as long as there exists on the face of the earth a single unsaved human being, just so long will the last words of our Savior be binding upon us, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."

No man or woman can come up to the full measure of christian duty until they have in some way or other done all they could for the spread of the gospel. We thank our Heavenly Father that the board reports that God's blessings have rested upon the Foreign field.

Trials, imprisonments, suffering in mind and body have been part of the lives of our missionaries: but amid it all could be seen one like unto the Son of Man, who as he once turned water into wine, did turn these sufferings into rejoicings; souls have been saved and the cause of missions has prospered. Italy, Brazil, Mexico, Japan, Africa and China, all and each send up encouraging reports. The Board tells us that laborers are ready to be sent. Brethren and sisters of this Association, let us look ever to ourselves and see that the skirts of our garments are free from the blood stains of lost souls, caused by neglecting our duty in the matter of prayers and alms.

Respectfully submitted,

COMMITTEE.

The subject of missions was spoken to by W. B. Crumpton, J. W. Stewart, L. Pool, A. R. Hardy and J. C. Kelly.

12. It was ordered that the Association allow Rev. J. W. Stewart to present the claims and workings of the Baptist Orphanage during the evening session.

13. Adjourned to meet at 7:30 o'clock p. m. Benediction by A. R. Hardy.

EVENING SESSION.

14. Preaching by W. B. Crumpton from the familiar text, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."

15. The Orphanage was presented by J. W. Stewart in a plain and impressive manner; after which a collection was taken to the amount of $23 for the Orphanage.

16. Adjourned to 9:30 o'clock a. m. Thursday.

THURSDAY—MORNING SESSION.

17. Began with singing. The Moderator read the 90th Psalm.

18. It was ruled by the Moderator and sustained by the Association, that delegates without letters were not entitled to seats.

19. The committee on finance was appointed as follows: C. F. Rainer, A. B. Cook and R. H. Lide.

20. The following were appointed a committee on Nominations: J. W. Cook, James Stallings and J. W. Blakely.

21. The subject of Missions was again taken up, and without further discussion all the reports were adopted.

22. The report on Sabbath Schools was submitted, and after discussion by Jno. G. Apsey, L. Pool and A. R. Hardy was tabled until after the preaching of the Missionary Sermon, which was preached by Jno. G. Apsey from the text as contained in a part of Acts 10:14. After the sermon a missionary collection was taken, which amounted to $26.85.

23. Adjourned to 2:30 o'clock p. m. with prayer by J. D. Cook.

Afternoon Session.

24. Re-assembled at 2:30 o'clock. Sang "Rock of Ages."

25. The report on Sabbath Schools was taken up, and without further discussion adopted.

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The Sabbath or Lord's day school is to the christian dispensation what the synagogue service was to the Jews. God has left us his recorded will, and in order to know that will we must puruse it, and as there seems to be perfect system in all other works of the Divine hand, we conclude that it might be profitable to observe it in so important a matter as a study of our relationship to God.

Some have defined the Sabbath School as "The church at work," others as the "Nursery of the church," but as these terms seem to be defective we will define it as "church work." There is no branch of church work that expands so readily to meet the talent of all as the Sabbath School. There is not a single member in any church within the bounds of this Association but can find profitable employment in this work. All are not qualified to teach, but there are none who are too old or too young to be taught. We believe that if every church maintained a real live Sabbath School, composed of all its members and their families, that there would hardly be any necessity for maintaining many of the societies that now exist in our churches. It is missionary in spirit, and would answer for that organiztion. It is charitable, and could easily dispense the charities of the church. It is conducive to sound doctrine, hence heresies could be easily detected. Aside from the spiritual benefits derived in a growth in grace from a study of his word, it is highly entertaining and instructive to peruse a book so replete in wisdom that has stood the test of centuries and the fires of innumerable enemies. The Sabbath School sustains a relation to the church that a training school does to a mighty army of conquest. Each member prepares himself or herself to be instruments in God's hands of doing good. He is armed with the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, and is able to meet the enemy on any battle field and put him to flight. There are, according to our last minutes, 1180 church members composing this Association, with only 489 Sabbath School pupils and sixty officers, making in all 549. Of these it is safe to say that about one out of every three is a church member, making 183 church members engaged in Sabbath School work. What of the 997? They are either engaged in working for God or satan. Surely they are not all preachers or invalids? How are we ever to utilize this latent force for the Master's cause? This is a question that most concerns us at this time. We believe that every

pastor ought to see that each of his churches has a well organized Sabbath School, and that each member be repeatedly requested to participate.

We would also suggest the organization of a Sabbath School Convention in every county of the State; and that church statistics show actual number of members who engage in Sabbath School work.

Respectfully submitted,

C. E. MATHERS, for Committee.

26. The following committee on Apportionment was appointed: B. B. Seale, W. P. Mills and G. C. Gowdy.

27. The report on Bible and Colportage work was submitted as follows:

REPORT ON BIBLE AND COLPORTAGE WORK.

Your committee beg leave to report that the work of disseminating the Bible and denominational literature does not receive the attention that it should from our Baptist people. The printed page is frequently read and reread long after the living voice has ceased to be heard. There has not been as much done during the last year by our Colportage Board as in some former years. In some instances colporters have been forced to quit their fields on account of the meagre sales. The board has thirteen men employed. There have been 1,621 books, Bibles and Testaments sold, valued at $1,075.65. There have been 23,566 pages of tracts distributed. Donations have been received in books and cash to the amount of $500.49. We would call attention to the fact that the Bigbee Association has about $100 in the original colportage fund, and would advise that a colporter be put into the field whenever the way is open to do so.

Respectfully submitted,

G. W. GREENE, Chairman.

The subject was discussed by W. B. Crumpton, G. W. Greene, C. C. Vaughan, John G. Apsey, J. D. Cook and A. R. Hardy, and the report adopted.

28. The report on Temperance was submitted as follows, and after discussion of the subject by L. Pool, W. B. Crumpton and J. D. Cook, was adopted:

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

We, the committee appointed to make a report on Temperance, beg leave to report: That we find it takes two million of our best young men and boys in these United States to manufacture 150,000 drunkards, produce annually 300,000 paupers, all of whom have to be supported at the expense of the State or good citizens; to say nothing of the woe, misery and unhappiness which these drunkards bring to their mothers and sisters, who have to suffer from the liquor habit. Tears, such as angels weep, are daily shed by God-loving mothers and loving sisters over their fallen ones.

The cost of the liquor traffic is between nine and ten millions yearly; the cost to each individual family is not less than one hundred dollars. Are not these figures startling?

Now, let us see for a moment what is being done for the advancement of Christianity. We find from all Christian denominations there is only five and a half million of dollars raised for mission work, or evangelizing the world. We find by statistics there are between

twenty-five and thirty million bushels of grain used in manufacturing ardent spirits. Now, is not this a deplorable state of the country, when we look around us and see so many mothers and children starving and crying for bread?

Our young ladies could help the cause of practical temperance by refusing to indulge with young men in wines and champagnes which are served at social gatherings. In the two hundred thousand saloons of America doubtless more than a million receive pernicious education every day in the year, or as they are paid to vote. We are all of one accord that the palladium of our government rests upon our citizens, and if we tolerate such unjust balloting, can the safety of our Union be perpetual? The saloons must have boys, or shut up their shops. One family out of every five must contribute a boy to keep up the supply. Will you help? Which of your boys are you willing to give?

The brewers and manufacturers of liquors claim to give employment to half a million of men. Now, let us suppose for a moment what a greater number of men could be employed in more honorable and laudable pursuits with the money expended for liquor. If every person in this country whose signature is fixed to a church record would abstain from this dishonoring habit, more than half our saloons would have to shut up shop and seek other employment. Besides, the Bible teaches temperance in all things, so let us heed its admonitions.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

L. Poole, Chairman.

29. The report on Woman's Work was read as follows:

REPORT ON WOMAN'S WORK.

The Woman's Missionary and Aid Societies in our churches is no longer an experiment. It has abundantly demonstrated its utility, both in raising funds for missionary and church purposes, and in educating to still more liberal giving, not only among our women, but also our male members, and even our Sunday school children, by the printed page and by its regular meetings.

Contributed in the South by the Woman's Missionary and Aid Societies in 1894, $45,000; in 1895, $48,600; asked for 1896, $55,000. Contributed in Alabama in 1894, $2,160; in 1895, $2,700; asked for in 1896, $3,100; contributed by Bigbee Association in 1894, $140; in 1895, $160. The above amounts are for Foreign and Home Missions only. We recommend:

1. That pastors encourage existing societies and the organizing of them.
2. That each lady member connect herself with the society.
3. That the societies of this Association stimulate each other by interchanging ideas on methods of work through correspondence.
4. That each society strive to enlarge circulation.
5. That the society act as a committee of the church doing its work, reporting to it the work done from time to time, and contributing through its channels.

Respectfully submitted,

A. R. Hardy, Chairman.

The subject was spoken to by A. R. Hardy, W. B. Crumpton, John G. Apsey and L. Pool, after which the report was adopted.

30. On motion of A. R. Hardy, it was ordered that the Woman's Aid Society furnish the Clerk of the Association a report of their work of the past year, and an annual report in the future, to be printed in the minutes.

31. Adjourned to 7:30 o'clock p. m., with prayer by W. B. Crumpton.

Evening Session.

32. Re-assembled at 7:30 o'clock. Preaching by J. D. Cook, from the text as contained in Heb. 12:1.

33. The report on General and Ministerial Education was read:

REPORT ON GENERAL AND MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

The change made in the financial condition of our country (the South), about thirty years ago, rendered it necessary that practically every one should be self-supporting. We then appreciated the need of an education, and this need created a desire which has grown so rapidly that to-day the desire for education is more general and deep seated than it ever was.

In response to this fulness, high schools are to be found in every county and good primary schools in every neighborhood. Our colleges have grown in number and efficiency. All of the denominations have become aroused to the necessity of watching after their boys and girls, and have established denominational colleges. We have the Howard, where is to be found both literary and theological training. This general advance in education must be met by a corresponding advance in our ministry. Our preachers must be abreast, or they can not have the influence they should have. To meet this need the Baptists of the South have at Louisville, Ky., a Theological Seminary second to none, where our young preachers can be equipped to do good and faithful work for the Master.

Your committee has not at hand the statistics of our colleges—the Howard and the Seminary,—but are impressed with the opinion that it is such as to stimulate us to work on and sustain them. And while we have, as a denomination, provided a place for our boys, the girls have not been forgotten, and will never be. Our matchless Judson has done and is doing as much for the women of Alabama as any school in the State. In every neighborhood there are to be found Judson girls who are bright advertisements of its advantages. Let us all see to it that so far as able we will support these institutions.

Respectfully,

D. W. Brock.

After discussion of the subject by John G. Apsey, W. B. Crumpton, A. R. Hardy and L. Pool, the report was adopted.

34. The committee appointed to inquire into the claims of the contending delegations from Concord submitted their report, which was adopted, as follows:

We, your committee appointed to inquire into the claims of contending delegations from Concord church, are of the opinion that the letter naming D. W. Brock, W. H. Phillips, J. D. Phillips, W. B. Shamburger, J. B. Griffin and J. W. Powell, is the one to be received;

twenty-five and thirty million bushels of grain used in manufacturing ardent spirits. Now, is not this a deplorable state of the country, when we look around us and see so many mothers and children starving and crying for bread?

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All of which is respectfully submitted.

L. POOLE, Chairman.

29. The report on Woman's Work was read as follows:

REPORT ON WOMAN'S WORK.

The Woman's Missionary and Aid Societies in our churches is no longer an experiment. It has abundantly demonstrated its utility, both in raising funds for missionary and church purposes, and in educating to still more liberal giving, not only among our women, but also our male members, and even our Sunday school children, by the printed page and by its regular meetings.

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4. That each society strive to enlarge circulation.
5. That the society act as a committee of the church doing its work, reporting to it the work done from time to time, and contributing through its channels.

Respectfully submitted,

A. R. HARDY, Chairman.

The subject was spoken to by A. R. Hardy, W. B. Crumpton, John G. Apsey and L. Pool, after which the report was adopted.

30. On motion of A. R. Hardy, it was ordered that the Woman's Aid Society furnish the Clerk of the Association a report of their work of the past year, and an annual report in the future, to be printed in the minutes.

31. Adjourned to 7:30 o'clock p. m., with prayer by W. B. Crumpton.

Evening Session.

32. Re-assembled at 7:30 o'clock. Preaching by J. D. Cook, from the text as contained in Heb. 12:1.

33. The report on General and Ministerial Education was read:

REPORT ON GENERAL AND MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

The change made in the financial condition of our country (the South), about thirty years ago, rendered it necessary that practically every one should be self-supporting. We then appreciated the need of an education, and this need created a desire which has grown so rapidly that to-day the desire for education is more general and deep seated than it ever was.

In response to this fulness, high schools are to be found in every county and good primary schools in every neighborhood. Our colleges have grown in number and efficiency. All of the denominations have become aroused to the necessity of watching after their boys and girls, and have established denominational colleges. We have the Howard, where is to be found both literary and theological training. This general advance in education must be met by a corresponding advance in our ministry. Our preachers must be abreast, or they can not have the influence they should have. To meet this need the Baptists of the South have at Louisville, Ky., a Theological Seminary second to none, where our young preachers can be equipped to do good and faithful work for the Master.

Your committee has not at hand the statistics of our colleges—the Howard and the Seminary,—but are impressed with the opinion that it is such as to stimulate us to work on and sustain them. And while we have, as a denomination, provided a place for our boys, the girls have not been forgotten, and will never be. Our matchless Judson has done and is doing as much for the women of Alabama as any school in the State. In every neighborhood there are to be found Judson girls who are bright advertisements of its advantages. Let us all see to it that so far as able we will support these institutions.

Respectfully,

D. W. Brock.

After discussion of the subject by John G. Apsey, W. B. Crumpton, A. R. Hardy and L. Pool, the report was adopted.

34. The committee appointed to inquire into the claims of the contending delegations from Concord submitted their report, which was adopted, as follows:

We, your committee appointed to inquire into the claims of contending delegations from Concord church, are of the opinion that the letter naming D. W. Brock, W. H. Phillips, J. D. Phillips, W. B. Shamburger, J. B. Griffin and J. W. Powell, is the one to be received;

and we recommend that they be seated as delegates from that church, from the fact that we find the letter that they present represents a majority of the members; has priority of dating, and seems to represent also the organized church.

Respectfully submitted,

J. C. KELLY,
L. POOL,
N. M. CARPENTER,
C. E. MATHERS,
L. A. MCLEAN.

35. The report on Correspondence was adopted as follows:

Your Committee report that we have had with us:

W. B. Crumpton, Corresponding Secretary of the State Board of Missions.

J. W. Stewart, representing the Baptist Orphanage.

John G. Apsey, representing the Theological Seminary at Louisville, Ky., and the Sunday School Board at Nashville, Tenn.

We assure these brethren we are glad to have them with us.

Respectfully submitted,

C. C. VAUGHAN, Chairman.

36. The report of the Finance Committee was submitted and adopted, as follows:

REPORT ON FINANCE.

We, the Committee on Finance, beg leave to report as follows:

State Missions	$189 14	
Home Missions	90 96	
Foreign Missions	150 25	
Bible and Colportage	7 50	
Indigent Ministers	11 20	
Ministerial Education	69 68	
Orphanage	71 93	
Minutes	19 75	$610 41
Amount received in cash	218 58	
Amount received in vouchers	391 83	$610 41

Respectfully submitted,

C. F. RAINER,
R. H. LIDE,
A. B. COOK.

37. The following resolutions, offered respectively by J. D. Cook and J. G. Apsey, were adopted:

Resolved, That the Clerk of this Association be instructed to have a notice of the death of Rev. T. B. Woodward, giving age and short sketch of his life, inserted in the minutes of the Association.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association be tendered the citizens of Livingston for the hospitality extended to the visitors and delegates during this session.

38. Standing committees were appointed to report at next session. (See inside of first page of cover.)

39. The Treasurer's report was adopted as follows:

TREASURER'S REPORT.

E. M. Shaw, In account with the Bigbee Association:

1894.	Dr.	
Oct. 4.	To amount on hand	$ 62
"	Amount received from Finance Com. (vouchers)	403 03
"	Amount received from Finance Com. (cash)	244 04
"	Amount of minute fund returned by Clerk	5 00
	Total	$652 69

1894.	Cr.	
Oct. 9.	By Vouchers on hand	$403 03
"	Cash paid S. O. Y. Ray for State Mission Board	70 68
"	" " W. F. Pond	11 25
"	" " J. D. Phillips for minutes	24 60
"	" " " associational purposes	6 74
"	" forwarded to W. B. Crumpton	135 77
"	" paid for remitting	80
"	" on hand	82
	Total	$652 69

Respectfully submitted,

E. M. Shaw, Treasurer.

40. The following resolution was adopted as offered by Jno. G. Apsey:

Whereas, It has come to the knowledge of this Association that differences exist in Concord Baptist church, which seem to the brethren not easy to settle: Therefore, be it

Resolved, That this Association, recognizing the fact that brethren should dwell together in brotherly love and unity, hereby request that the following brethren, viz:—Revs. J. R. Larkin, C. C. Vaughan and J. E. Brunson visit Concord Baptist church, confer with its members, and if possible settle the difficulties that now distract that body and hinder the work of the Master.

41. The report on Nominations was adopted after an amendment as to time of meeting.

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

Your committee on Nominations beg leave to make the following report: We recommend that the next meeting of this Association be held with Concord Baptist church, on Wednesday before the first Sabbath in October, 1895. That Rev. C. C. Vaughan preach the Introductory sermon on Wednesday at 11 o'clock a. m., and that Rev. J. D. Cook preach the Missionary sermon on Thursday at 11 o'clock a. m.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. Blakely, Chairman.

42. The Treasurer was ordered to pay to W. F. Pond all Indigent Ministers fund, which was $3.50.

43. The report on Apportionment was submitted, as follows:

Churches.	State Missions.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Indig't Ministers	Ministerial Education.	Bible and Colportage.	Orphan's Home.	Total.
Beulah	$ 4 00	$ 3 50	$ 3 00	$ 1 00	$ 1 00	$ 1 00	$ 2 50	$ 16 00
Christian Valley	10 00	5 00	5 00	1 50	7 50	2 00	6 00	37 00
Clinton	6 00	4 00	4 00	1 00	6 50	1 00	4 00	26 50
Concord	20 00	5 00	5 00	1 00	3 00	1 00	7 00	42 00
Cuba	18 00	4 00	4 00	1 00	5 00	1 00	6 00	39 00
Demopolis	13 00	4 00	6 00	2 00	5 00	1 00	6 00	37 00
Eutaw	3 00	2 00	2 00	50	1 00	1 00	2 00	11 50
Epes	3 00	2 50	2 50	1 00	3 00	50	2 00	14 50
Friendship	6 00	4 00	4 00	1 00	2 00	1 00	3 00	21 00
Gainesville	2 00	1 00	1 00	1 00	1 00	50	1 00	7 50
Hopewell (Choctaw county)	5 00	2 50	2 50	1 00	5 00	1 00	3 00	20 00
Hopewell (Sumter county)	5 00	2 50	2 00	50	2 50	1 00	3 00	16 50
Livingston	35 00	18 00	18 00	2 00	18 00	2 00	18 00	111 00
Mt. Hermon	2 00	1 00	1 00	1 00	1 00	1 00	1 00	8 00
Mt. Pleasant	15 00	6 00	4 00	1 00	5 00	1 00	6 00	38 00
Mt. Sterling	3 00	1 00	1 00	1 00	1 00	1 00	1 00	9 00
New Prospect	10 00	3 00	3 00	1 00	1 00	1 00	4 00	23 00
Rehoboth	12 00	4 00	4 00	1 00	2 00	1 00	5 00	29 00
Shorts	10 00	5 00	5 00	1 00	5 00	1 00	5 00	32 00
Siloam	10 00	5 00	1 00	1 00	2 50	1 00	4 00	27 50
Sumterville	15 00	4 00	4 00	1 00	5 00	1 00	6 00	36 00
York	15 00	10 00	10 00	1 00	10 00	1 00	9 00	56 00
Zion	5 00	3 00	3 00	1 00	1 00	1 00	3 00	17 00
Grand total								$ 675 00

Respectfully submitted,

B. B. Seale, Chairman.

44. The following delegates were appointed to the State Baptist Convention—C. E. Mathers, E. B. Hearn, J. D. Cook and Jno. G. Apsey; and J. D. Cook and John G. Apsey were appointed delegates to the Southern Baptist Convention.

45. There not being a sufficient minute fund on hand, a collection was taken to the amount of $6.65 which, together with $1.75 of the original fund was ordered to be paid to the Clerk for his services, the remainder to be paid for the printing.

46. The journal was read and adopted.

47. After prayer, the Moderator declared the Association adjourned to meet with Concord Baptist church, on Wednesday before the first Sabbath in October, 1896.

J. R. LARKIN, Moderator.

J. D. Phillips, Clerk.

N. B. In order to comply with the first resolution in Art. 37, I delayed having the minutes printed three weeks, and not being able to procure the information necessary, was compelled to omit the insertion.—Clerk.

CONSTITUTION.

1. This body shall be known by the name of the Bigbee Baptist Association.

2. The officers of this Association shall consist of a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be elected at each annual meeting, from its own body, and shall hold their office until their successors are elected.

3. The Moderator shall preside over the Association, and shall discharge the duties usually imposed upon officers presiding over deliberative bodies.

4. The Clerk shall keep a fair record of the proceedings of this Association, and shall attend to the printing and distributing of the Minutes.

5. The Treasurer shall perform the duties usually assigned to such officer, and shall report annually to the Association.

6. The Association shall hold its meetings at such time and place as it shall from time to time appoint.

7. Every church shall be entitled to two delegates, and also one for every twenty-five members exceeding twenty-five.

8. This Association disclaims all right of exercising authority over the internal regulation of churches, believing that within their own sphere they are accountable to God only.

9. The Constitution may be altered or amended by the concurrence of three-fourths of the members comprising the Association.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe in one living and true God, that in the Godhead are Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

2. We believe that the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, and the New Testament is the only rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe that the Church of God is composed of such persons as believe in Jesus Christ and have been baptized; that baptism consists in the immersion of the whole body in water; and that the Lord's Supper should be administered to church members only.

4. We believe in the doctrines of grace taught by the United Baptists, viz: In the depravity of man; in the converting grace of God; in the resurrection of the dead; in the general judgment; in the eternal life of the righteous; in the everlasting punishment of the wicked.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. At each meeting of this Association the Moderator shall take the chair, shall call the members to order, shall decide questions of order subject to an appeal, shall open and close the Association with prayer, shall appoint committees, when not otherwise ordered, and shall pronounce the decisions to the Association.

2. The names of members shall be called each day, and invitations to seats extended to ministering brethren.

3. The members shall observe respect to officers and to each other, shall arise when addressing the Moderator, shall confine themselves to the questions, shall avoid personalities, shall not speak without leave more than once, until every member shall have opportunity to speak, and shall sustain that bearing to each other which becomes gentlemen and Christians.

4. When a motion is made and seconded, it shall be stated by the Moderator, and then shall be in the possession of the Association, but may be withdrawn by the mover before amendment or decision.

5. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received

except to adjourn, to lay on the table, to amend or postpone; which motion shall have precedence in the order enumerated.

6. All questions, except those relating to the Constitution, shall be decided by a majority. Any member voting with the majority may move for a reconsideration on the day of decision. Members may not leave the Association without permission.

7. When questions of order are not provided for in these rules, they shall be decided according to the rules and regulations governing legislative bodies generally.

8. The Association shall have power to receive into its body and fellowship such churches as apply for admission; and shall also be empowered to withdraw its fellowship from any church or body of men walking disorderly, and supposed to be unworthy the fellowship of this Association.

MINUTES

Of the First Annual Meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union of the Bigbee Association.

LIVINGSTON, ALA., OCTOBER 3, 1895.

The first annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union, auxiliary to the Bigbee Association, convened at the Methodist church at 9:30 a. m.

Mrs. H. L. Mellen, Vice-president in the chair. Opened the meeting by singing.

Devotional exercises conducted by Mrs. H. L. Mellen.

Miss Annie Sledge called the names of churches in Association, and delegates from the following reported the work done by Ladies' Societies and Children's Bands: Cuba, York, Epes, Sumterville, Demopolis, Eutaw, Livingston. These societies contributed the following amounts during the year:

Foreign Missions	$ 49 02
Miss Willie Kelly (China)	38 10
Home Missions	52 25
State Missions	8 50
Baptist Orphanage	52 05
Judson Institute	2 00
Ministerial Education	5 00
Christmas Offering (China)	31 20
Church Aid	175 85
Total	$413 79

Mrs. A. M. Tartt read the recommendations of the Home and Foreign Mission Boards.

Letters from the frontier missionaries were read by Mrs. H. L. Mellen, and an appeal made for boxes of clothing to be sent to these families. The societies at York and Cuba will

send one box, and Livingston the other.

Mrs. Tartt urged upon all societies to aid in the support of Miss Willie Kelly, missionary in Shanghai, China. Special prayer was offered for her and all lady missionaries.

The Christmas offering for China was emphasized.

Mrs. M. Gardner read the recommendations of the Sunday School Board, and all were urged to subscribe for our mission literature, and to observe Missionary Day.

Mrs. J. A. Mitchell read the recommendations of the Executive Committee of Woman's Missionary Union, and special attention was called to the observance of the week of prayer, first week in January, and the week of self denial.

Mission literature was distributed. A most impressive letter was read from the wife of a frontier missionary, who had received a box of clothing. Mrs. Kirkland, a Methodist sister, gave a most encouraging talk, and closed the meeting with prayer.

MRS. H. L. MELLEN, Vice-President.

MRS. A. R. HARDY, Secretary.

DIRECTORY OF BIGBEE ASSOCIATION.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

John G. Apsey	Eutaw,	Ala.
J. D. Cook	Clinton,	"
F. A. Freeman	Butler,	"
J. R. Larkin	Coatopa,	"
A. R. Hardy	Livingston,	"
W. F. Pond	Kinterbish,	"
C. C. Vaughan	Cuba,	"
J. E. Vaughan	Mt. Sterling,	"
J. W. Smith	Jefferson,	"
C. S. Ray	Enterprise,	Miss.

LICENSED MINISTERS.

A. P. Evans	Kinterbish,	"

STANDING COMMITTEES TO REPORT AT SESSION IN 1896.

Foreign Missions—C. E. Mathers, York, Ala.; B. B. Seale, B. F. Richardson.

Home Missions—J. D. Cook, Clinton, Ala.; S. E. Williamson, N. M. Carpenter.

State Missions—J. G. Apsey, Eutaw, Ala.; M. D. Gould, L. Lewis.

Woman's Work—C. C. Vaughan, Cuba, Ala.; W. G. Greene, J. W. Smith.

Bible and Colportage Work—L. Pool, Cuba, Ala.; D. W. Brock, L. A. McLean.

Sabbath Schools—J. C. Kelly, Demopolis, Ala.; G. E. Brunson, J. B. Pond.

Temperance—A. P. Evans, Kinterbish, Ala.; W. H. Phillips, W. B. Shamburger.

General and Ministerial Education—E. M. Shaw, Cuba, Ala.; J. B. Griffin, R. H. Lide.

Correspondence—J. W. Powell, Yantley, Ala.; W. P. Brewer, Wm. Larkin.

Executive—J. D. Cook, Clinton, Ala.; J. G. Apsey, G. C. Gowdy.

Orphanage—C. F. Rainer, Yantley, Ala.; J. W. Blakely, S. Speede.

Religious Literature—W. F. Pond, Kinterbish, Ala.; G. C. Gowdy, A. C. Arrington.

TIME, PLACE OF MEEETING, AND OFFICERS OF BIGBEE ASSOCIATION SINCE ITS ORGANIZATION.

YEAR.	CHURCH.	MODERATOR.	CLERK.	TREASURER.
1852	Jones Creek	Wm. Woodward	John McInnis	J. H. Brown.
1853	Clinton	D. P. Bestor	A. D. Hall	J. G. Robertson.
1854	New Prospect	E. B. Teague	W. W. Paschal	" "
1855	Gaston	D. P. Bestor	" "	" "
1856	Sumterville	" "	" "	" "
1857	Enlaw	" "	R. H. Whitfield	" "
1858	Reboboth	Wm. Howard	" "	W. W. Paschal.
1859	Friendship	" "	" "	" "
1860	Clinton	" "	" "	" "
1861	Mt. Sterling	J. K. Ryan	" "	" "
1862	Christian Valley	" "	" "	Wm. Howard.
1863	Mt. Hebron	Wm. Howard	W. D. Gaines	L. Nathan Tartt.
1864	Gainesville	" "	" "	" " "
1865	New Prospect	" "	R. H. Whitfield	I. C. Brown.
1866	Fellowship	J. K. Ryan	J. C. Wright	" "
1867	Kinterbish	" "	C. W. Buck	J. W. Bell.
1868	New Prospect	" "	C. C. Vaughn	E. Tartt.
1869	Siloam	" "	" "	A. R. Scarborough.
1870	Clinton	" "	C. W. Buck	I. C. Brown.
1871	Sumterville	A. R. Scarborough.	" "	" "
1872	Gainesville	L. M. Stone	J. H. Hendin	" "
1873	Reboboth	" "	" "	" "
1874	Friendship	A. R. Scarborough.	D. S. Brassfield	" "
1875	Livingston	" "	J. D. Cook	" "
1876	Clinton	" "	" "	" "
1877	Christian Valley	" "	" "	" "
1878	Zion	J. G. Harris	" "	" "
1879	Cuba	J. K. Ryan	" "	" "
1880	Gainesville	" "	" "	" "
1881	Mt. Sterling	" "	" "	" "
1882	York	" "	" "	" "
1883	Livingston	" "	" "	" "
1884	Friendship	" "	" "	" "
1885	Concord	" "	" "	" "
1886	Sumterville	L. L. Belsher	" "	" "
1887	Christian Valley	" "	" "	G. C. Gowdy.
1888	Clinton	J. R. Larkin	" "	A. D. Fortner.
1889	Mt. Pleasant	" "	" "	" "
1890	York	" "	" "	" "
1891	Zion	" "	" "	" "
1892	Cuba	" "	F. M. Pond	E. M. Shaw.
1893	Siloam	" "	J. D. Phillips	" "
1894	Reboboth	" "	" "	" "
1895	Livingston	" "	" "	" "

FINANCIAL EXHIBIT OF BIGBEE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

CHURCHES.	State Missions.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions	Indigent Ministers.	Bible and Colportage.	Ministerial Education.	Orphanage.	Minutes.	Total.	Sunday School		Woman's Society.	Grand Total.	Pastor's Salary	Value of Church Building
										Missions.	Expenses.				
Beulah	$ 3 10	$ 3 40	$ 2 35	$ 1 00	$	$	$	$ 1 00	$ 10 85	$	$		$ 10 85	$ 100 00	$
Christian Valley	11 23	5 00	5 80	1 50	1 00	5 50		2 00	32 03				32 03		
Clinton	8 50	3 50	4 80			1 20	1 30	1 00	20 30				20 30		
Concord	20 00	5 00	5 00	1 00	1 00	3 00	19 00	4 25	58 25				58 25	150 00	600 00
Cuba	6 57	3 00	2 00			3 93		1 50	17 00				17 00	125 00	1000 00
Demopolis	23 70		18 50			3 70			45 70				45 70	180 00	1400 00
Epes	3 75	3 50	3 50		1 50		14 00	1 00	27 25				27 25	75 00	
Eutaw	1 33	3 33	3 34	50	1 00	1 00		1 50	15 00			Missions $ 1 00	19 00		
Friendship															
Gainesville															
Hopewell, C. C.								75	7 75			F. Missions 9 35 H. Missions 28 85 Miss Kelly 6 00	7 75		600 00
Hopewell, S. C.	3 33	1 75	1 50			20 00	12 13		113 17	10 35	21 55	Orphanage 21 25	323 67	127 80	4000 00
Livingston	30 25	25 28	55 51									Church aid 71 50 Miss. Ed. 5 00			
Mount Hermon								1 50	12 92			Incidental 65	12 92	60 00	2000 00
Mount Pleasant	3 00	8 12													
Mount Sterling								1 00	20 00				20 00		
New Prospect	10 00	3 00	3 00	1 00	1 00	1 00		1 50	20 00				20 00		
Rehoboth	12 80	3 85	3 85	1 00	1 00	2 00		1 50	7 75				7 75		
Shorts	2 50	1 35	1 10	1 00				1 75	6 30				6 30	100 00	200 00
Siloam	1 25	1 15	1 15	1 00				2 00	63 20				63 20		800 00
Summerville	10 80	5 90	17 00			25 00	2 50	2 00	50 31				50 31		
York	24 96	10 00	9 80	2 20		2 35		2 00	14 00				14 00		
Zion	5 00	3 00	3 00	1 00	1 00	1 00			55 50				55 50		
Collection at Association	9 05	8 85	8 95				23 00	5 65							
Total	$ 193 14	$ 99 28	$ 150 25	$ 11 20	$ 7 50	$ 69 68	$ 71 94	$ 26 90	$ 620 88	$ 10 35	$ 21 55	$ 152 60	$ 815	$ 1217	$ 12703.00

The letter and funds of Mt. Pleasant was received after the Association adjourned.

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STATISTICS OF BIGBEE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION—1895.

CHURCH.	COUNTY.	PASTOR.	CLERK.	CLERK'S P. O.	Membership last Reported.	Increase by			Decrease by				Present Membership.	S. S. Officers and Teachers.	S. S. Pupils.	Preaching Sabbaths.	Prayer Meetings.	Reports Received.
						Baptism.	Letter.	Restoration.	Letter.	Exclusion.	Erasure.	Death.						
Beulah	Sumter	J. E. Vaughan	H. P. Pond	Kinterbish	56	3			1				58	6	50	3	1	
Christian Valley	"	J. R. Larkin	S. E. Williamson	Coatopa	38	1							39					1
Clinton	Greene	J. D. Cook	W. D. Greene	Clinton	31	1	2		1				33	5	20			
Concord	Choctaw	J. W. H. DeWitt	J. D. Phillips	Yantley	112				1	1	1	1	109	4	30			
Cuba	Sumter	J. E. Brunson	W. H. Shaw	Cuba	75		10		8	1			76	3	40	3		1
Demopolis	Marengo	J. C. Dickinson	W. D. F. Kelly	Demopolis	53	8	6		12				61	10	60	2	1	
Eps	Sumter	John G. Apsey	T. J. Ferrell	Eps	11		3						14					
Eutaw	Greene	John G. Apsey	A. P. Smith	Eutaw	32	3				1	1		30	4	35			
Friendship	"				*10								*10					
Gainesville	Sumter				*21								*21					
Hopewell	Choctaw				†92							1	†91					
Hopewell	Sumter	J. R. Larkin			32				5			2	35	5	15	1		
Livingston	"	A. R. Hardy	G. C. Gowdy	Livingston	86	12	1		10			1	81	6	50	1	1	
Mt. Hermon	"				33		1					1	33					
Mt. Pleasant	Marengo	A. G. Lowry	E. P. Lipscomb	Jefferson	31		1		1				31	3	30	2		
Mt. Sterling	Choctaw				†19								†19					
New Prospect	Sumter	J. R. Larkin	W. P. Brewer	Livingston	32	3	1		1				35	4		1		
Rehoboth	Choctaw	F. A. Freeman	J. W. Cook	Pushmataha	55				1				54	3		1		
Shorts	Sumter		E. B. Hearn	Bevills	46		1		4			2	41					
Siloam	"	A. J. Hearn	J. T. Stallings	York	112	3	2	2	10				109	3	35	3	1	1
Stumterville	"	A. R. Haldy	A. E. Poythress	Livingston	47	4	8						59	5	25	3		
York	"	John G. Apsey	E. M. Flowers	York	17		3		1			1	18		50			
Zion	"	J. E. Brunson	J. A. Davison	Yantley	53	1	1					1	57					
Total					1117	29	43	2	46	3	5	11	1125	61	488			

*Taken from report of 1890. †Taken from report of 1891. ‡Pastor not supplied.

SUPERINTENDENTS OF SUNDAY SCHOOLS.—Beulah—W. F. Pond, Kinterbish; Clinton—N. M. Carpenter, Clinton; Concord—W. H. Phillips, Yantley; Cuba—E. M. Shaw, Cuba; Demopolis—J. C. Kelly, Demopolis; Eutaw—A. P. Smith, Eutaw; Hopewell, Sumter Co.—A. B. Spidle, Belmont; Livingston—G. C. Gowdy, Livingston; Mt. Pleasant—C. W. Fulford, Jefferson; Sumterville—W. H. Brown, Sumterville; York—C. P. Mills, York.

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